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## FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

An arrival from New Orleans brings intelligence to the 24th. At that time nothing had transpired as to the intended movements of Gen. Banks, but it was known that a campaign here had been marked out, having Baton Rouge as a base of operations. There was no news from Vicksburg or Port Hudson. If the Cairo report of the arrival of Admiral Farragut's fleet below Vicksburg had been true, we would no doubt have heard something from it by this arrival.

A dispatch from Louisville yesterday states that the Federal army under Gen. Rosecrans captured Murfreesboro' on Tuesday morning, the Confederates making but little resistance and falling back to Tullahoma. The Confederate Gen. Morgan followed the rear of Gen. Rosecrans' army, and captured a train of wagons.

Reports from Corinth to Saturday night state that the Federal garrison at that place were on half rations, but the deficiency was supplied by foraging parties. Col. Lee, with a large cavalry force, was still in pursuit of Gen. Van Dorn.

At Easton, Md., on the 28th, as the wife of Rev. Dr. Mason was engaged in filling a fluid lamp from a tin-can, assisted by a colored servant who was holding a lighted lamp in such a position as would enable the lady to determine when her lamp was full, a door of the room was suddenly opened, the draft from which blew the flame of the lighted lamp in contact with the escaping fluid. An explosion of the can immediately occurred, enveloping the clothing of the lady in a sheet of flame, and in less than five minutes life was extinct.

The list of marine losses for December shows an aggregate of forty-three vessels. Of this number two were steamers, eleven were ships, four were barks, thirteen were brigs, fifteen were schooners, and one a sloop. The total value of the property lost and missing is estimated at \$4,461,000.

The Lynchburg Republican says that the call of the Secretary of War for 4,500 negroes to work on the fortifications about Richmond, is being promptly responded to, and the slaves are being forwarded to the scene of their labors.

Mr. John T. Bangs, a prominent and respected citizen of Georgetown, died yesterday morning. Mr. Bangs was the president of the Georgetown city councils and an officer in one of the banks there. He was also a prominent member of the Odd Fellows.

Rhodes & Co., of Baltimore, who have formerly sold large quantities of Super-phosphate of Lime in the Southern States, finding this market gone, have sent Rhodes' Super-phosphate to England.

A handsome marble slab has been placed in the wall of the house of Florence in which Mrs. Barrett Browning lived for so many years.—The slab bears an inscription in Italian, of which the following is a translation: "Here wrote and died Elizabeth Browning, who, in her woman's heart, united the wisdom of a sage, and the spirit of a poet, and who made of her verse a golden link between Italy and England."

About two o'clock yesterday morning a serious disturbance occurred between several white men and negroes in the vicinity of the capitol, in Washington. The negroes were returning from a fair which was held in the negro meeting-house near the church, when they were assaulted by the white men. One of the latter was arrested by the police, but was rescued by his companions after a desperate struggle, in which several shots were fired by the policemen. The assaulting party succeeded in making their escape.

A colored man named Edward Jones was arrested yesterday in Washington, for insulting a white woman in the street. A large crowd was attracted to the scene, some of whom made serious threats of lynching him, and probably would have done so but for the interference of the police.

The steamship McClellan arrived at Key West on the 23d ult. from New Orleans. She brought intelligence of the progress of the Banks Expedition up the Mississippi as far as Key West, and rumors obtained from Southern papers that a fight was going on at Vicksburg.

Admiral David D. Porter writes from Cairo, to a friend in Philadelphia, "That he will capture Vicksburg on or before the 1st January, and present it to the nation as a New Year's gift."

It is announced that the voting for the new king had quietly gone on in Greece, and that Prince Alfred had received an almost unanimous expression in his favor. At the same time we are told that England has never seriously intended to allow her young prince to accept the election.

On Christmas night a fire occurred at Hagerstown, Md., which consumed the extensive livery stable owned by Mr. Mealey, and occupied by Mr. Sian, proprietor of the mail line of coaches and an express company.

Iron plating on the bottoms of vessels, it is said, has an injurious effect upon the vessel, and her armament, and provisions.

It is said in letters from the West that the change in the sentiment of the people in Indiana, Illinois and Ohio is rapid and strong. They say: "When our Legislature in Indiana gets under way, you may expect the strongest sentiments enunciated in the plainest manner.—The time has come when the Democrats of the three great States of the Northwest will speak in a voice not to be misunderstood."

It is still believed by the earnest friends of the bill admitting Western Virginia into the Union, that the President will sign it.

## FROM NEW ORLEANS.

The following is an extract from a private letter written by a New York gentleman in New Orleans to a friend in this city.—[New York World.]

"NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 19.—Our streets, and shops, and houses are almost entirely deserted. Every one has got away that could, by fair or foul means, and the military have had possession of everything. They have not, I regret to say, been scrupulous in regard to right. Dwellings have been sacked, stores have been broken open, plantations seized, negroes accounted as soldiers, women driven into the streets, men shut up in prisons, property confiscated, and sold, pockets rifled, and grave offence sanctioned as military necessities.

You have, of course, read Reverdy Johnson's card. You get but little of the real facts from that, but his report to the President (somehow unaccountably not published yet) will reveal a record of things here that would stagger the stoutest imagination and appal the senses of belief.

All appearances indicate that Gen. Banks and the government are fully aware of the state of things that has existed here, and it is even said that the general invites aggrieved parties to come before him and state their wrongs.—Be this as it may, however, there never was a community so much delighted as this one was when Banks arrived and deposed the Cyclops of this department."

It is Gen. Wool, and not Major General Dix, who is appointed to succeed Governor Morgan in the command of the Department of New York.

Second Lieut. August Q. Nenber, 7th U. S. Infantry, having deserted his command on the night of the 13th of December, when within a hundred yards of the enemy and in expectation of an engagement, and having remained absent since, has been, by direction of the President, disgracefully dismissed from the service.

We are informed that the restriction recently placed upon sutlers carrying goods to the army of the Rappahannock has been, by the urgent request of Gen. Burnside, so far removed as to allow them permits and clearances for certain articles most needed by the army. Liquors and other contraband are prohibited.

Secretary Smith attended a special Cabinet meeting on Wednesday for the last time, and formally gave in his resignation. He has left the city in order to open the Court assembling in Indianapolis on Monday next.

From the reports of the mercantile agencies, it appears that there were fewer failures in business in the Northern States during the year of 1862 than in any year since 1830.

The Newark (New Jersey) Daily Journal, in discussing the question whether re-union be now possible, makes the following remarks:—"War cannot last forever. There will come a time when either the energies or the animus which impels one or the other party to the conflict must die out. Then the war will cease. We begin to see certain unmistakable symptoms of a growing weariness of the profitless struggle at the present time."